

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Please replace figs. 1A, 1B, and 2A as noted in the attachment, where the caption “Related Art” has been added to figs. 1A and 1B and the reference numerals “251” and “252” have been added to fig. 2A.

REMARKS

The Office Action dated October 7, 2005 has been received and carefully reviewed. Claims 1-4, 9, and 12 have been amended. Claims 6-8 and 13-48 were withdrawn. Claims 1-5 and 9-12 are currently pending. Reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested.

The Office Action objected to the drawings for failing to comply with 37 C.F.R. § 1.84(p)(5). In response, the Applicant has amended the drawings by including reference numerals “251” and “252” in fig. 2A. In addition, figs. 1A-1B have been amended by adding the legend “related art.” Accordingly, the Applicant asks the Examiner to withdraw this objection.

The Office Action objected to the specification for informalities. In response; the Applicant has amended the specification paragraph [0052] by changing “Fig. 2” to “Fig. 2A.” Accordingly, the Applicant asks the Examiner to withdraw this objection.

The Office Action rejected claims 1-5 and 9-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicant regards as the invention. The Applicant has amended the claims as noted above and requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejected claims 1, 3, 9, 11 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by German publication DE 193838631 (hereinafter “DE ‘631”). The Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

As required in Chapter 2131 of the M.P.E.P., in order to anticipate a claim under 35 U.S.C. § 102, “the reference must teach every element of the claim.” The Applicant respectfully submits that DE ‘631 does not teach every element recited in these claims. Therefore, DE ‘631 cannot anticipate these claims.

DE ‘631 does not teach “at least one coupling means provided both to a lateral side of the washing machine or the laundry dryer and a lateral side of the pedestal body for coupling the washing machine or the laundry dryer with the pedestal body,” as required by claim 1. The

Examiner cited to fig. 4a of DE '631 as anticipating to this limitation. The Applicant respectfully disagrees. DE '631 does not teach or suggest a coupling means at a lateral side of a washing machine or a laundry dryer.

DE '631 cannot anticipate claims 2-3, 9, and 11-12 at least for the reason that it fails to anticipate claim 1, from which claims 2, 3, 9, 11, and 12 depend. In addition, DE '631 fails to teach "a coupling member provided both to the lateral side of the washing machine or the laundry dryer, and the lateral side of the pedestal body under the washing machine or the laundry dryer" and "a fastening member for fastening the coupling member to the lateral side of the washing machine or the laundry dryer and the lateral side of the pedestal body," as required by claim 2. The Examiner cited to fig. 4b 54 as anticipating the "coupling member" and fig. 4c 26 and 58 as anticipating the "fastening members." The Applicant respectfully disagrees. DE '631 part 54 does not couple to the lateral side of the machine, and the fastening member 58 does not fasten to the lateral side of the machine. Thus, claim 2 further distinguishes over DE '631. Similarly, DE '631 does not teach "a first fastening member for fastening an upper part of the coupling member to the lateral side of a lower part of the washing machine or the laundry dryer" and "a second fastening member for fastening a lower part of the coupling member to the lateral side of an upper part of the pedestal," as required by claim 3. At best, DE '631 teaches a fastening device that fastens to the bottom side of the machine.

Accordingly, The Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-3, 9, 11, and 12 are patentable over DE '631 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

In addition, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 9, and 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 1,756,984 to Mason (hereinafter "Mason") in view of DE '631. The Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection herein.

As required in Chapter 2143.03 of the M.P.E.P., in order to "establish prima facie obviousness of the claimed invention, all the limitations must be taught or suggested by the

prior art.” The Applicant respectfully submits that Mason does not disclose or suggest all the elements recited in those claims.

As stated above, DE ‘631 fails to teach “at least one coupling means provided both to a lateral side of the washing machine or the laundry dryer and a lateral side of the pedestal body for coupling the washing machine or the laundry dryer with the pedestal body,” as required by claim 1. Similarly, Mason fails to teach this feature. Nevertheless, the Examiner contends that the molding shown in fig. 2, reference 6, of Mason anticipates this feature. The Applicant respectfully disagrees. First of all, the “molding 6” in Mason is not provided to both a lateral side of the washing machine or dryer and a lateral side of the pedestal. Moreover, the “molding” merely ensures the joint between the cabinet and compartment is hidden (Col. 2, Lines 51-52, 67-68). Thus, the molding does not even constitute a coupling means.

Mason cannot anticipate claims 9 and 10 at least for the reasons that it does not anticipate claim 1. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 9, and 10 are patentable over Mason in view of DE ‘631 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 and requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

The Examiner also rejected claims 4 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over DE ‘631 in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,692,722 to Lundagards (hereinafter Lundagards). The Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

As stated above, DE ‘631 fails to teach “at least one coupling means provided both to a lateral side of the washing machine or the laundry dryer and a lateral side of the pedestal body for coupling the washing machine or the laundry dryer with the pedestal body,” as required by claim 1, from which claims 4 and 5 depend. Likewise, Lundagards fails to teach or suggest this feature. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that claims 4-5 are patentable over DE ‘631 in view of Lundagards under 35 U.S.C. § 103 and requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

In addition, the Office Action rejected claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over DE '631 in view of Mason. As discussed above, claim 10 is patentable over these references and the Applicant requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

The application is in a condition for allowance and favorable action is respectfully solicited. If for any reason the Examiner believes a conversation with the Applicant's representative would facilitate the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: March 6, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

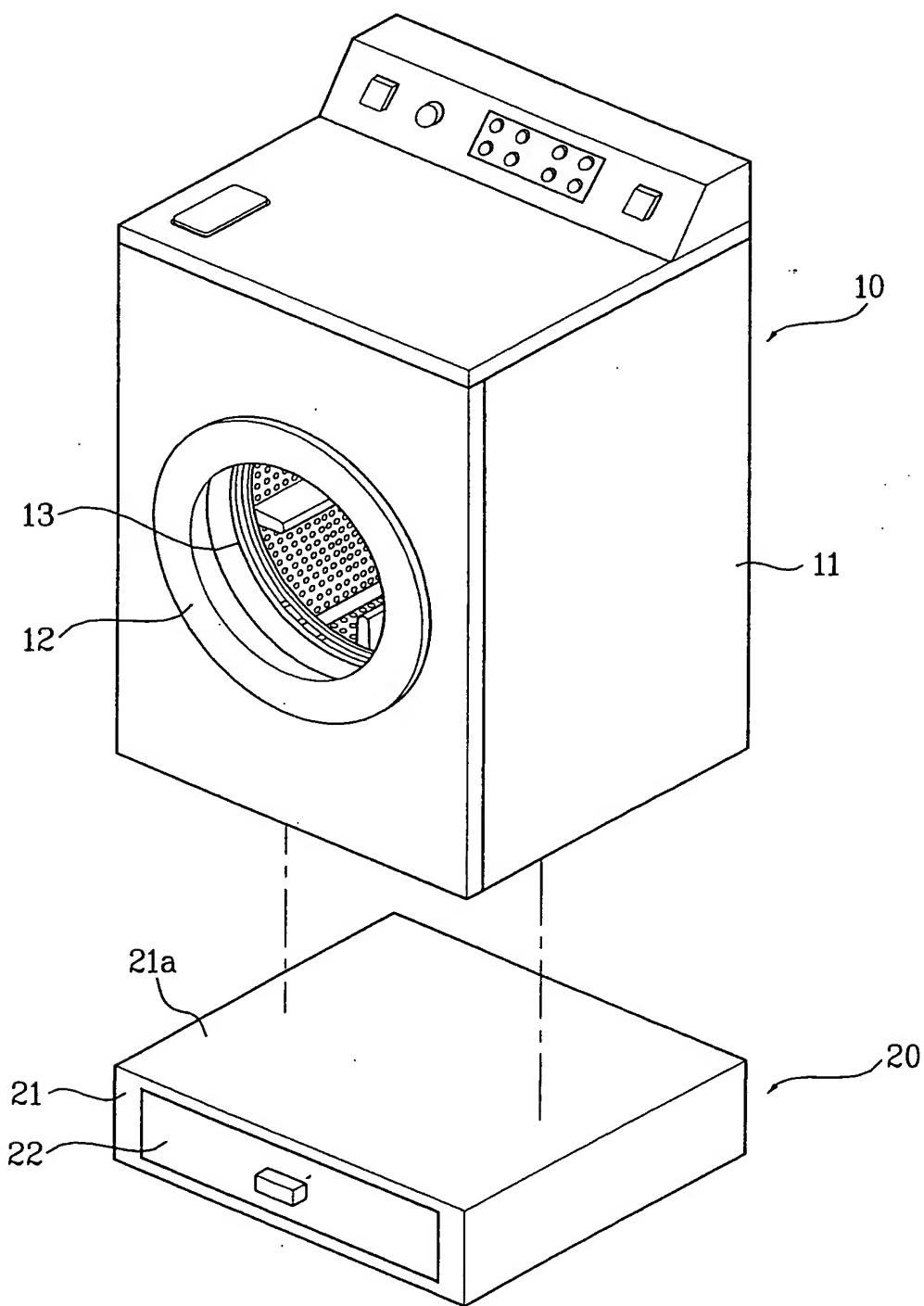
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ANNOTATED SHEET

FIG. 1A

- Related Art -



ANNOTATED SHEET

FIG. 1B

- Related Note -

driving speed (rpm)	Vibration at different points on washing machine cabinet(μm)			
	right side	center	left side	top/bottom
1150	1150	300	1400	100
970	240	140	250	0
880	150	130	200	0
800	75	130	100	0

ANNOTATED SHEET

FIG. 2A

